Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PRAGUE 02973 01 OF 02 040934Z

11
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01

TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

NIC-01 /083 W
---------- 073633
P R 031510Z DEC 74
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7335
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PRAGUE 2973

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, CZ
SUBJECT: KSC CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

REF: PRAGUE 2410

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF COMMUNIST
PARTY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA (KSC) MET IN PRAGUE NOVEMBER
27-29. DISCUSSIONS CENTERED ON ECONOMIC MATTERS,
PAUCITY OF HARD NEWS IS IN ITSELF
NOTEWORTHY, AND HAS GIVEN RISE TO RUMORS OF MORE IMPORTANT
MATTERS ACTUALLY BEING DISCUSSED, AMONG THEM PLAN TO RE-WRITE
HISTORY OF 1968 INVASION AND QUESTION ITS NECESSITY. NEWSPAPERS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PRAGUE 02973 01 OF 02 040934Z

DECEMBER 3, HOWEVER, ANNOUNCED SEVERAL PERSONNEL CHANGES

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

IN GOVERNMENT WHICH UNDOUBTEDLY STEMMED FROM CC MEETING.
END SUMMARY.

2. CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF KSC MET IN PRAGUE NOVEMBER 27-29.
ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, CC DISCUSSED REPORT BY HUSAK
ON IMPLEMENTATION OF OF CONCLUSIONS OF XIV PARTY CONGRESS AND
TASKS FOR 1975 AND REPORT BY PRESIDIUM CONDIDATE MEMBER
VACLAV HULA ON STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR DEVELOPMENT
OF NATIONAL ECONOMY FOR 1975. THOSE 33 MEMBERS AND
CANDIDATE MEMBERS WHO SPOKE EXPRESSED UNEQUIVOCAL AGREEMENT
WITH HUSAK'S REPORT.

3. CC NOTED PARTICULAR PROGRESS IN A) INDUSTRIAL AND BUILDING
PRODUCTION (EXCEEDING GROWTH RATE ENVISAGED IN FIVE YEAR
PLAN), B) AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION (GRAIN HAREST NEARLY 50 PERCENT
HIGHER THAN 1970, SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN PRODUCTION OF EGGS,
MILK, BUTTER AND "FUNDAMENTALLY" IN MEAT), C) PERSONAL CON-
SUMPTION (UP MORE THAN 20 PERCENT OVER 1970, WITH IMPROVED
SUPPLIES OF FOODSTUFFS AND INCREASING SALES OF INDUSTRIAL
CONSUMER GOODS) AND D) HOUSING PROBLEM (465,000 FLATS
COMPLETED IN FIRST FOUR YEARS OF FIVE-YEAR PLAN, ALREADY EXCEEDING
BY 30,000 NUMBER COMPLETED UNDER 1966-1970 PLAN). WITH
REGARD TO CEMA, CC SAID THAT "INCREASINGLY CLOSE COHESION
OF ECONOMIES OF SOCIALIST STATES CREATE AND CONSOLIDATES
EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR EONOMY, ESPECIALLY ON BASIS OF JOINT
UTILIZATION OF SOURCES OF POWER, RAW MATERIALS, TECHNOLOGICAL
PROGRESS AND DIVISION OF LABOR." PROBABLY IN DEFERENCE TO
CONTINUING ROMORS OF POSSIBILITY OF CONSUMER PRICE INCREASES
(SEE COMMENT), CC PLEDGED TO "CONTINUE TO IMPLEMENT CONSISTENTLY THE
POLICY OF STABILITY OF THE LEVEL OF RETAIL PRICES". ABOVE-NOTED
ACHIEVEMENTS WERE CONTRASTED TO WHAT CC CHARACTERIZED AS
SWIFTLY GROWING CRISIS PHENOMENA IN CAPITIST WORLD, SUCH
AS INFLATION, UNEMPLOYMENT AND RISING COST OF LIVING.

3. KEY TASKS IN ECONOMIC SPHERE FOR 1975 WERE SEEN AS
SPEED-UP IN CREATION OF RESOURCES, ASSURING THAT GROWTH OF
EXPORTS EXCEEDED THAT OF IMPORTS, MORE EFFECTIVE ROLES FOR
ENGINEERING AND FOREIGN TRADE SECTORS, IMPROVEMENT OF
STANDARDS OF MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING, AND MORE EFFECTIVE
USE OF INSTRUMENTS OF MATERIAL INTEREST AND COMPENSATION
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PRAGUE 02973 01 OF 02 040934Z

(READ INCENTIVES).

4. CC STATED ITS EXPECTATION THAT COMMUNISTS IN VARIOUS
REPRESENTATIVE BODIES WOULD ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN WORK
OF THOSE BODIES AND WARNED EXPECIALLY OF NECESSITY TO GUARD
AGAINST "ALL ANTI-SOCIALIST AND ANTI-SOCIAL PHENOMENA,
AGAINST THE PETTY BOURGEOISIE AND ENRICHMENT AT THE EXPENSE
FO SICIETY".

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

5. CC WENT ON TO NOTE INCREASED STRENGTH AND AUTHORITY OF PARTY, WHOSE LEADING ROLE HAS BEEN INTENSIFIED, AND TO STRESS NECESSITY FOR COMMUNISTS TO INCREASE THEIR POLITICAL AND IDEOLOGICAL STANDARDS. CADRE WERE EXHORTED TO SET EXAMPLE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND MORAL QUALITIES AND WARNED THAT THEIR WORK WOULD BE EVALUATED BY RESULTS ACHIEVED. PARTICULAR ATTENTION SHOULD BE PAID TO IDEOLOGICAL WORK, STRENGTHENING OF SOCIALIST CONSCIOUSNESS OF WORKERS, STRUGGLE AGAINST BOURGEOIS AND PETTY BOURGEOIS OPINIONS, RIGHTIST OPPORTUNISM, REVISIONISM AND NATIONALISM.

6. FINALLY, CC NOTED THAT SINCE XIV PARTY CONGRESS OVER 200,000 CANDIDATE MEMBERS HAD BEEN ADMITTED TO PARTY RANKS, 60 PERCENT OF WHOM ARE WORKERS AND 90 PERCENT OF WHOM ARE UNDER AGE 35. IT WAS ALSO NOTED, WITHOUT GIVING ANY TIME FRAME, THAT CC WAS DEVOTING GREAT ATTENTION TO PREPARATIONS FOR XV PARTY CONGRESS.

7. RUDE PRAVO (DECEMBER 3) ANNOUNCES ON FRONT PAGE SEVERAL HIGH-LEVEL SHIFTS IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WHICH CLEARLY STEMMED FROM DECISIONS TAKEN AT CC MEETING. BRIEFLY, CHANGES INCLUDE MOVING DEPUTY PREMIER VLASTIMIL EHRENBURGER FROM HIS PRESENT POSITION TO BECOME FEDERAL MINISTER OF FUELS AND PWER, THUS FILLING AN IMPORTANT POST LEFT VACANT BY DEATH LAST SEPTEMBER OF JAROMIR MATUSEK (REFTEL); ELEVATION OF JOSEF SIMON FROM PRESENT POST AS MINISTER OF METALLURGY AND HEAVY ENGINEERING TO FILL DEPUTY PRMIER SLTO LEFT VACANT BY EHRENBURGER; AND PROMOTION OF ZDENEK PUCEK, WHO HAD SERVED SINCE FEBRUARY, 1974, AS DEPUTY TO SIMON, TO POST OF MINISTER OF METALLURGY AND HEAVY ENGINEERING. ALTHOUGH AT FIRST BLUSH THESE SHIFTS MAY LOOK LIKE A DEMOTION FOR EHRINBURGER, WE ARE INCLINED TO THINK OTHERWISE. AS NOTED REFTEL, MINISTRY OF FUELS AND POWER LIKELY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 PRAGUE 02973 01 OF 02 040934Z

TO BECOME A HOT SPOT IN NEXT FEW MONTHS AND YEARS, THIS COUPLED WITH FACT THAT WE AVE LEARNED SINCE MATUSEK'S DEATH THAT HE WAS VERY HIGHLY RESPECTED AMONG CZECH OFFICIALDOM FOR HIS TECHNICAL AND MANAGERIAL EXPERTISE, LEADS UUS TO CONCLUDE PARTY FELT HIS REPLACEMENT SHOULD BE OF SIMILAR CLAIBER. WE CANNOT, OF COURSE, COMMENT ON EHRENBURGER'S CREDENTIALS IN THESE AREAS, BUT HIS POLITICAL CREDENTIALS AND ANTECEDENTS (HE IS CZECH AS WAS MATUSEK) WOULD SEEM TO JUSTIFY HIS APPOINTMENT.

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PRAGUE 02973 02 OF 02 040909Z

11
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01

TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

NIC-01 /083 W
---------- 073437
P R 031510Z DEC 74
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7336
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 PRAGUE 2973

8. COMMENT. GENERAL PRACTICE AT CC MEETINGS HAS BEEN
TO PUBLISH MAJOR SPEECHES ON DAY FOLLOWING DELIVERY.
MANY OBSERVERS HERE HAVE COMMENTED ON PAUCITY OF NEWS
RELEASED ON THE MEETING (ONLY NOV 30 REPORT SUMMARIZED
ABOVE, PLUS DEC 3 ANNOUNCEMENTS OF PERSONNEL CHANGES).
THIS HAS GIVEN RISE TO SPECULATION THAT SOMETHING OF UNUSUAL
IMPORTANCE WAS DISCUSSED, AND ONE JOURNALIST REPORTED
RUMOR THAT EFFORT HAD BEEN MADE TO ADOPT STATEMENT ON
1968. ACCORDING THIS RUMOR, STATEMENT HAD IT THAT SOME
MEMBERS OF PRESIDIUM, FEARING THAT SITUATION IN 1968
CONSTITUTED SERIOUS DANGER, "INVITED" SOVIETS TO INTERVENE;
WHEN SOVIETS FOUND SITUATION NOT SO DANGEROUS AS PICTURED,
"THEY WITHDREW." (STATEMENT ON FACE OF IT IS FAR-FETCHED;
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PRAGUE 02973 02 OF 02 040909Z

IT MAY BE REHASH OF OLD RUMOR, BUT COULD HAVE SOME ELEMENT

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

OF TRUTH, NAMELY CONTINUTING PREOCCUPATION BY PARTY WITH
1968 AND OCNTINUING PRESSURE TO "LEGITIMIZE" SOVIET INVASIONS.)

9. GOOD SOURCES HERE ESTIMATE THAT 80 PERCENT OF MEETING WAS INDEED TAKEN UP WITH ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND RELATED PERSONNEL MATTERS. ATTENTION IS CALLED TO SEPTEL REPORTING RUDE PRAVO ARITICLE OF DEC 2 WHICH SUGGESTS THAT PRICE REFORM IS MUCH ON MINDS OF LEADERSHIP THESE DAYS. EMBASSY VIEW IS THAT THORNY ECONOMIC PROBLEMS DOMINATED THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS, AND THESE-PRATICULARLY THE RISING NEED FOR PRICE REFORMS--MAY HAVE GENERATED DISCUSSION SO CONTENTIOUS THAT CC DOES NOT FEEL ABLE AT THIS TIME TO PUBLISH FULLER ACCOUNT.
PERRY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, POLICIES, COMMUNISTS, PARTY MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PRAGUE02973
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740351-0512
From: PRAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741264/aaaacdch.tel
Line Count: 237
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: PRAGUE 2410
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 APR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <09 JUL 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KSC CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING
TAGS: PINT, CZ, KSC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005